

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Examiner stated that Applicants appear to rely on the filing date of prior Application No. 10/408,046, now U.S. Patent No. 6,737,470, filed April 4, 2003. However, Examiner noted that a reference to the prior application did not appear in the first sentence(s) of the specification. Applicants did claim priority to the filing date of U.S. Patent No. 6,737,470, as evidenced by the "Priority Date Claimed" section of the Transmittal Letter to the United States Designated/Elected Office Concerning a Submission Under 35 U.S.C. § 317. Additionally, Applicants claimed priority to Application Serial No. 10/408,046, now U.S. Patent No. 6,737,470, in the Declaration filed in the instant application. To correct the specification to include a reference to the prior application, Applicants have filed herewith the reference to the prior application. The reference to the prior application appears above in the section entitled "Amendments to the Specification." Applicants believe that no petition under 37 C.F.R. 1.78(a)(2) or surcharge under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(t) is unnecessary since the reference to the prior application was previously submitted within the time period set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.78(a) and the Patent Office recognized the prior application on the Filing Receipt.

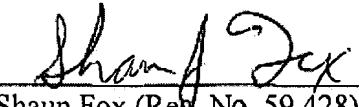
Examiner also rejected claims 15-17 on the ground of nonstatutory obvious-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-23 of U.S. Patent No. 6,737,470. In order to overcome this rejection, Applicants have filed herewith a terminal disclaimer for this commonly owned patent. Please charge the fee set forth under 37 C.F.R. 1.20(d) to Deposit Account No. 060925.

Applicants have also filed herewith an Information Disclosure Sheet containing references cited in the International Search Report. A copy of the International Search Report is also enclosed.

Applicants submit that claims 15-37 are now in condition for allowance. Examiner is respectfully requested to enter this Response and pass this case to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

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